

KIWASSEE
June 16, 2009

SMOKE SIGNALS
kiwassee.org

KIWANIS
Volume XX No. 34

CHAIR: Ray Senesac
PIG: Don Winger

INVOCATION: Duane Townley
MAILER: John McClellan

MUSIC: Dave Winegardner
EDITOR: John Mier

CALENDAR

June 17 Work project, Central Park Band Shell, Duane Townley.
June 18 Board of Directors meeting, noon at Memorial Presbyterian Church.
June 30 Meeting will be at the Bradley House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

***Duane Townley asked for volunteers to help paint the Central Park Band Shell on June 17, 9 a.m. to noon, and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.. Duane circulated sign up sheets.

***Jim Schroeder thanked members who helped distribute substance abuse literature at the Art Fair last week. Jim also thanked the 10 members who helped complete the playground project last Friday and Saturday at the old Sugnet School.

***Jim Schroeder presented a \$300 check to Jan Lampman from the ARC of Midland. Jan thanked Kiwassee and said the donation will be used to support the "Training Wheels Bike Camp" program. The program will teach 32 kids with disabilities to ride bikes. Volunteers are needed. Call Jan (631-7341) if you can help.

***Duane Brooks reported a successful steak fry last week. Fifty members and guests enjoyed the event.

***Jack Higgins reported that Kiwassee belatedly won the Annual Division Scrap Book award, which was erroneously awarded to the wrong club. He presented the award to Renee Castellon (who did all the work).

***Stan Englund thanked members for their continuing support of Pinecrest, including the members who transported 16 bags of clothing from the Presbyterian Rummage sale to Pinecrest last month. He particularly thanked Mike Cronenberger for his donation of baseball caps, and Stu Bender for his donation of 45 years of National Geographic magazines to Pinecrest.

***Mike McNulty reported that his wife is suffering from a serious illness. Your prayers will be appreciated.

***President Ray reminded members of the Board of Directors meeting on June 18 (noon at Memorial Presbyterian Church). Also, he said, the regular meeting on June 30 will be at the Bradley House. Ray thanked Duane Brooks for the great Cookout at Emerson Park last week, and he also thanked Stu Bender and Mike Cronenberger for their help during his absence.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST DISASTER RELIEF MINISTRY

Don Winger introduced Allan Thiele, who is a member of the United Church of Christ of Midland. Allan presented an interesting program about his experiences as a volunteer leader on two mission trips for his church to New Orleans, following Hurricane Katrina which occurred on August, 2005. Allan's first trip was in May of 2006. He was there for one week (which is about the normal work period for most church disaster relief teams). However, Allan and his wife returned in 2008 and led work teams from the United Church of Christ Disaster Relief Ministry for three months (January thru March). He presented a number of slides that illustrated the extent of the damage, and the scope of work required to restore homes. Dry wall had to be stripped away so that underlying structures could be treated with bleach (often many times) to eliminate the mold. Much work still remains after (almost) four years. The population of New Orleans is now estimated to be 250,000 to 300,000 compared to about 600,000 before the storm. The United Church of Christ Disaster Relief Ministry (which is actually one of the smaller church denominations participating in New Orleans relief efforts) has sent 371 teams with 4,260 volunteers in the last 3 ½ years. They have worked a total of 106,000 hours.